

SUMMARY

Recumbent stacks of printed products are produced and strapped by supplying the printed products from above onto a conveying surface (2) where they are lined up in an upright position forming a continuously growing stack (6); by separating discrete stacks (7) from the growing stack, by stabilizing the discrete stacks with endplates (4), and by conveying the stabilized stacks to a strapping position (12), in which a loop of strapping material is tightened around the stack (7). For conveying and strapping the isolated stack (7) is gripped between two compression jaws (10, 11) being extended into the stack area (16) from a first side. In the strapping position (12), a strapping device (30) is situated on the side opposite side of the stack area (16). For strapping, at least part of the strapping device is moved horizontally in relation to the stack, and transverse to the stacking direction (S), such placing a loop of the strapping material around the stack. The loop is then tightened and closed around the stack and the compression jaws (10, 11) and the strapped stack is separated from the compression jaws by moving the stack (7) and the compression jaws (10, 11) in relation to each other, horizontally and transverse to the stacking direction. For isolating the discrete stacks from the continuously growing stack, two retractable support elements (14, 15) are used, the support elements being designed to be both inserted in an identical place of the stack area. Positioning of the endplates (4) is performed by inserting them from above between the two support elements (14, 15), or between a support element (15) and a compression jaw (11). Producing and strapping of the recumbent stacks are advantageous due to their simplicity and the short cycle time.

(Fig. 1)